

## FOUR BURNED IN "L" BLAZE.

Workers on Structure Overwhelmed by the Flames When Wire Burned Out.

### ONE FELL TO THE STREET.

Electrician, About to Repair Break, Fell on Charged Wire and Probably Fatally Hurt—Policemen to the Rescue.

A fuse connecting the heavily charged electric rail on the Grand Central Station branch of the Third Avenue elevated road, in Forty-second street, blew out this afternoon, and the great flame of blue fire shot down and caught three workmen who were on a hanging stage suspended from the track.

One of them was horribly burned, and the force of the flames sent him tumbling from the platform to the street nearly thirty feet below. He will probably die.

His two companions were badly burned, but crawled to the track and lay there in full view of the hundreds of people who had ascended to the roofs and windows of the surrounding buildings on the report of the fuse burning out.

A few minutes later an electrician who had gone to the track to repair the burned fuse fell on the charged rail and he was seriously burned.

John Cera, twenty-four years old, a riveter, living at No. 1329 Amsterdam avenue, Matthew Fahy, twenty-nine, a drifter, of No. 309 West One Hundred and Forty-fourth street, and James Duffy, thirty-two, a drifter, of No. 508 Walek avenue, in the Bronx, were at work on the suspended staging, placing plates on the girders so as to strengthen the structure.

Over them the shuttle trains to and from the Grand Central Station passed.

**Enveloped in Flames.**

While drilling a hole in the girder there was suddenly a loud report, and as the fuse over them blew out the three men were enveloped in flames. One end of the burned fuse fell so that it touched a girder. In that way the whole structure was immediately charged and the electric flames sent forth by the fire shot down between the ties and the men on the platform were unable to get away from them.

Cera was nearest the fuse and, turned about the head, neck, arms and legs, he toppled from the platform and fell to the street below.

Hundreds of people on the street saw him fall, heard the report of the fuse blowing out and saw the flames. They ascended in the buildings until the windows and roofs were black with people.

**Fell Exhausted.**

Fahy and Duffy, although badly burned about the face, arms and legs, climbed up through the ties to the track, but there their strength left them and they fell down on the ties, with their clothes on fire.

The three injured men were taken to the Flower Hospital, where it was said that besides the severe burns Cera had sustained several broken bones through his fall to the street and that he would probably die.

The crowd was just leaving the windows and roofs when they were stayed by a fearful scream.

Luther Coleman, thirty-five years old, an electrician, living at No. 515 Pearl street, had gone out on the tracks to repair the fuse. When near the place he slipped on the ties and fell headlong on the charged rail. In the contact the flames shot up about his head and shoulders. He lay there for a moment, as though dead, then turned and fell from the rail to the ties, unconscious and with his clothes on fire.

He was rescued by the police and taken to Flower Hospital. It was said there that he had been seriously burned about the head, face and body.

## FIRE AGAIN IN NEW WOMAN'S HOTEL

Second Blaze Within a Few Weeks in Uncompleted Martha Washington—Workmen Rush for Safety.

The second fire within a few weeks occurred to-day in the uncompleted eleven-story, fireproof Martha Washington Hotel for women, at No. 51 East Thirtieth street.

A fire in the cellar caught to the scaffolding erected by the workmen who are putting up the fireproofing, and roared up through the steel rafters as in a furnace. The 20 workmen in the building rushed from their places and for a few moments there was excitement galore.

Firemen put out the blaze after \$200 worth of damage had been done.

**MUST CARRY WATCHES.**

Railroad Adopts New Rule and Employs an Inspector.

Employees of the Central Railroad of New Jersey will have to get good watches unless they already have them. The company has employed R. A. Jones of Tiffany's, to act as inspector of timepieces and it will be his duty, beginning July 15, to examine the watch carried by each employee.

The company has decided that no watch which costs less than \$20 is a good timepiece and those whose watches are condemned will have to buy new ones or purchase \$20 watches from the company and pay for them on the installment plan.

**COURT-MARTIAL FOR OFFICER.**

MANILA, July 9.—Gen. Chaffee has ordered Lieut. Edwin A. Hickman, of the First Cavalry, to Manila for trial by court-martial on the charge of alleged cruelty to natives of Tayabas Province.

**Died from Lockjaw.**

Salvatore Call, sixteen years old, of No. 440 East Thirtieth street, died in the Hudson Street Hospital this morning from tetanus resulting from an injury received on the Fourth of July. The hospital authorities reported the death to the coroner's office.

## SOUGHT JEROME IN STRANGER'S HOUSE

Joseph Cooper Held in \$200 Bail for Annoying John Jordan—Has Hallucinations, He Says.

Joseph Cooper, who says he is a bartender, living at No. 420 West Twenty-second street, was held in \$200 to-day by Magistrate Hogan in Yorkville Court on a charge of disorderly conduct, made by John Jordan, of No. 482 Second avenue.

Jordan told the Magistrate that the prisoner had been "hanging about" his house all yesterday afternoon and that at about 10 o'clock he rang the bell and when Mrs. Jordan opened the door Cooper asked to see District-Attorney Jerome.

After he'd repeated the request half a dozen times, Jordan caused Cooper's arrest.

"I have hallucinations occasionally," said the prisoner. "That was one of them."

"Where do you live?" continued the Magistrate.

"I live at No. 420 West Twenty-second street."

"I will send around there, then," said the Magistrate.

"I live at No. 420 West Twenty-second street," promptly declared Cooper.

The prisoner will be examined to-morrow.

## \$50,000 ASKED FOR BITE OF DOG.

Rye Resident, Who Received Gift from Prince Henry, Sued by Young Woman—Attacked in Street.

(Special to The Evening World.) WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., July 9.—William Baruch, a lawyer of Rye-on-the-Sound, announced to-day that he will immediately bring suit in the Supreme Court in behalf of Miss Kate Moore for \$50,000 damages against Adolph Bender, a wealthy resident of Sound View Park, at Rye, for injuries Miss Moore received. It is alleged, as the result of Mr. Bender's dog attacking her.

Mr. Bender's dog attacked her when he gave up his stateroom to Prince Henry and the Prince in return presented him with a valuable Dachsund dog.

Miss Moore alleges that while passing the Bender villa a coach dog jumped at her and sunk his teeth in her right leg.

## WORKMAN HELD IN COIL OF LIVE WIRE.

Dangling Strand Caught Current from Trolley While He Was at Top of Pole—Rescued, but May Not Live.

Patrick Johnson, of Park avenue, Hoboken, was probably fatally burned to-day while putting up wires for the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company. With a coil of wire wound around his body he was at work on top of a pole at Bulls Ferry Road and Bergenline avenue, Guttenberg, when the wire came in contact with the trolley wire of the Hudson trolley line. Two fellow workmen went to his assistance and pulled him from the coil. He was taken to his home in a precarious condition, attended by Dr. Justin.

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## MAN WANTED TO SEE MRS. M'KINLEY.

Had a Story About the Assassination of the President, but Authorities Sent Him Out of Town.

CANTON, Ohio, July 9.—George Fisher, giving Pittsburgh as his home, made an attempt to see Mrs. McKinley yesterday afternoon, claiming that he had important disclosures to make to her of the plot which led to the assassination of her husband.

The colored porter told Fisher that Mrs. McKinley was too ill to see any one. Fisher then went to Mayor J. H. Robertson and told him his story. He had been to Cleveland, where he made an unsuccessful attempt to see Senator Hanna. He claims the Anarchists had set a price of \$50,000 upon his head.

The township trustees bought him a ticket to Pittsburgh to get him out of the city.

**COMPANIES INCORPORATED.**

John N. Stearns & Co. and Texas Copper Company File Articles.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 9.—John N. Stearns & Co., of New York, was incorporated to-day with a capital of \$1,000,000 to deal in fabrics, &c. The directors are: B. P. Blair, L. P. Blair, Brooklyn; John N. Blair and William A. Lockwood, of New York, and C. La Rue Munson, of Williamsport, Pa.

The Texas Copper Company, of New York, with a capital of \$1,000,000, to mine copper, was also incorporated. The directors are: Haseol A. Hagel, New York; Glenn M. Condon, Robert E. Condon, Gowanda, N. Y.; Asa B. Foster and Edward Jewell, of Boston.

**AMES NOT BRIBE-TAKER.**

MINNEAPOLIS, July 9.—The jury in the case of Superintendent of Police Fred W. Ames, charged with accepting a bribe, after being out eighteen hours, returned a verdict of not guilty.

## RICH ST. LOUIS MAN DIES IN NEW YORK

Frank Lawrence, Who Had Many Friends Here and Abroad, Victim of Pneumonia at Imperial Hotel.

Frank Lawrence, of St. Louis, died to-day at the Imperial Hotel of pneumonia. He was forty-two years old. Funeral services will be held in St. Louis on Friday.

Although he made St. Louis his home Mr. Lawrence was known to hundreds in New York and abroad as one of the most genial of men. Handsome, witty, rich in his own right and heir to the fortune of his father, Dr. J. J. Lawrence, he traveled much and left sincere friends wherever he visited. To those who did not know of his illness news of his death is a grievous shock.

With all his social attainments Mr. Lawrence was a business man of rare ability. He was born in Wilcox, N. C., on June 18, 1860, going to St. Louis in 1878. A graduate of the St. Louis Law School he did not apply himself seriously to his profession. He was associated with his father in business and was interested in many St. Louis financial projects.

He was a watchman on the East Third street recreation pier. There was a crowd of little fellows in the water with him at the time of the accident and the pier was occupied by a long line of women and children looking at the swimmers. Woodie was seized with a cramp. In his desperation he reached out and caught hold of young Weissman. They sank together, struggling.

After so long a period that it seemed to those on the pier that the boy and Woodie must certainly be dead, young Weissman came to the surface. He was exhausted and unable to help himself. The other boys, who had gone to shore when Woodie grabbed their companion, went out and rescued him.

"We had a fierce fight under the water," said young Weissman. "He had a grip on me that nearly broke me in two. I hit him and clanked at him and finally squirmed loose just about when I was gone. I think I must have torn his face with my fingernails. It was the only thing I could do. If he had lasted a few seconds longer I wouldn't have come up."

## TOOK HER NURSE FROM PRINCESS.

Church's Action Toward the American Wife of Prince Rospiogliosi Causes a Sensation in Rome.

ROME, July 9.—A great sensation has been caused here by the action of the Vatican authorities toward the Princess Joseph Rospiogliosi, an American.

Her husband is head of an ancient family of clerical nobility and his brother is commandant of the Papal Noble Guard. On Aug. 28, 1901, Prince Rospiogliosi married Mrs. Marie Jennings Reid Parkhurst, of Washington, the divorced wife of Col. Frederick H. Parkhurst, of Bangor, Me.

The ceremony was civil and hence was not recognized by the Vatican. Princess Rospiogliosi, who is ill, engaged an English Blue sister as a nurse, and the latter took up her duties. But Cardinal Macchi (Secretary of Apostolic Briefs) hearing of this, ordered the sister to fulfill her duties on the ground that the marriage was non-existent. The Prince was furious and exerted all his influence to overcome the scruples of the Church, but without avail.

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## HARD FIGHT WITH DROWNING MAN.

Young Harry Weissman Had a Desperate Struggle in the Water with Harry Woodie, Who Lost His Life.

Harry Woodie, of No. 438 East Houston street, an expert swimmer, with a record as a life saver, was drowned this morning in the East River at the foot of Fourth street. As he was going down he grabbed Harry Weissman, of No. 107 Cannon street, a boy who was swimming near by, and almost took the youth to death with him.

Woodie was a watchman on the East Third street recreation pier. There was a crowd of little fellows in the water with him at the time of the accident and the pier was occupied by a long line of women and children looking at the swimmers. Woodie was seized with a cramp. In his desperation he reached out and caught hold of young Weissman. They sank together, struggling.

After so long a period that it seemed to those on the pier that the boy and Woodie must certainly be dead, young Weissman came to the surface. He was exhausted and unable to help himself. The other boys, who had gone to shore when Woodie grabbed their companion, went out and rescued him.

"We had a fierce fight under the water," said young Weissman. "He had a grip on me that nearly broke me in two. I hit him and clanked at him and finally squirmed loose just about when I was gone. I think I must have torn his face with my fingernails. It was the only thing I could do. If he had lasted a few seconds longer I wouldn't have come up."

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